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Agenda item 71 (b)
Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Human rights mainstreaming in the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[2]

Reaffirming also the universality, indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights,

Recognizing that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing,

Considering that the promotion and the protection of all human rights is one of the priorities of the international community,

Recalling the commitment of the Millennium Declaration[3] to spare no effort to promote democracy and strengthen the rule of law, as well as respect for all internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development,

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).
[2] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.
[3] See resolution 55/2.

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Recognizing that human rights, the rule of law and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations,

Recalling the mandate and responsibility of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, including the responsibility to coordinate the human rights promotion and protection activities throughout the United Nations system,

Recognizing the essential importance of the United Nations system in promoting international human rights instruments and adhering to international humanitarian law and international human rights standards in all aspects of its peace and security activities,

Supporting the strengthening of linkages between the normative work of the United Nations system and its operational activities,

Having resolved to integrate the promotion and protection of human rights into national policies and to support the further mainstreaming of human rights throughout the United Nations system, as well as closer cooperation between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and all relevant United Nations bodies,

1. *Welcomes* the:

(a) Recent efforts of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to ensure that human rights are integrated throughout the work of the United Nations;

(b) Support of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change for these efforts;

(c) Work done by the specialized agencies and United Nations funds and programmes, inter alia, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Children's Fund, to integrate human rights into their programming processes;

(d) United Nations agreement on a human rights-based approach to development cooperation of 2003;

(e) Inter-agency plan elaborated by the High Commissioner, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Group and the Executive Committee for Humanitarian Affairs, to strengthen national protection systems in accordance with the action 2 initiative of the reform programme of the Secretary-General;[4]

(f) Recognition in the reports of the United Nations Millennium Project that achieving the Millennium Development Goals requires a commitment to good governance, which includes upholding the rule of law and promoting human rights;

(g) Integration of human rights components in the mandate of peacekeeping operations established by the Security Council;

2. *Stresses* the importance of ongoing efforts aimed at mainstreaming the issue of human rights within the United Nations system;

[4] See A/57/387 and Corr.1.

3. *Underlines* the need for wider knowledge within the entire United Nations system, including country teams, of human rights issues;

4. *Encourages* the:

(a) Security Council to strengthen the links and to continue to develop cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, inter alia, through reports of the High Commissioner to the Council and involvement of the High Commissioner in the implementation of all human rights provisions of Security Council resolutions;

(b) United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes;

(i) To mainstream human rights in all their policies, programmes and activities at all levels;

(ii) To implement the United Nations common understanding on a human rights-based approach to development cooperation;

(iii) To strengthen their cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner;

5. *Encourages* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights:

(a) To enhance her cooperation with all relevant United Nations bodies, including the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Security Council;

(b) To intensify her efforts to integrate human rights into development, humanitarian and rule of law activities and to further develop and implement the action 2 initiative, inter alia, through enhancing cooperation with United Nations bodies, funds and programmes;

(c) To also intensify her efforts to improve coordination and cooperation among United Nations agencies and programmes active in the field of the promotion and protection of human rights, in particular with respect to the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration[3] and the Millennium Development Goals, and to engage in a dialogue with concerned Governments for that purpose;

6. *Calls upon* Member States:

(a) To implement all universal human rights norms and to integrate the promotion and protection of human rights into national policies;

(b) To further contribute actively towards mainstreaming of human rights at the national, regional and international level;

(c) To consider urgently contributing to the joint initiative of the United Nations Development Group, the Executive Committee for Humanitarian Affairs and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on strengthening United Nations support for national human rights protection and promotion systems worldwide;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session.